

# **Resource Document**

# **1**

## **Gallatin County Profile**

<b>1.1 Population Trends in Gallatin County.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2 Land Use in Gallatin County. ....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1.3 Employment and Income in Gallatin County.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>1.4 Housing and Affordability in Gallatin County.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>1.5 “Gallatin Today” Maps. ....</b>	<b>29</b>

**MAY 15, 2001**

# **RESOURCE DOCUMENT 1: GALLATIN COUNTY PROFILE**

## **Gallatin County Growth Policy “A Shared Vision for a New Century”**

---

### **1 GALLATIN COUNTY PROFILE**

This profile of Gallatin County supports the *Gallatin County Growth Policy* with the background information important to local decision makers and citizens of the county. As such, this profile is not meant to be a comprehensive analysis of demographic trends, but a snapshot of the current character of social, economic and land use development within the county. By better understanding the dominant trends and pressures in Gallatin County, more informed and effective policies may be developed to mitigate impacts of growth and plan for our future.

A review follows of population, land use, employment and income, and housing. There are several excellent on-line sources for more detailed, up-to-date statistics, such as the USDA’s Montana Agricultural Statistics Service at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt>; the Montana State Library’s Natural Resource Information System at <http://nris.state.mt.us>, or the Montana Department of Commerce’s Census and Economic Information Center at <http://ceic.commerce.state.mt.us>.

#### **1.1 POPULATION TRENDS IN GALLATIN COUNTY.**

From 1990 to 2000, Gallatin County grew by 34.4%, adding more than 17,000 people to the local population. This rate is more than double the current 12.9% growth rate for the state of Montana.<sup>1</sup>

Gallatin County has a relatively young median age (32 years old) compared to the national median (35.6) and the Montana median (37),<sup>2</sup> which is typical in a university community. However, the county population is aging significantly. Between 1990 and 1998, individuals aged 45-64 years old constituted the largest component of population increase, accounting for an additional 5% of total population, while the number of individuals between 25 and 44 years old contracted by the same amount.<sup>3</sup> The growing number of older residents is significant when compared to overall economic trends in Gallatin County.

As may be expected in a county where population is aging, there is significant income coming in from retirement, investment, dividend and rental income. Section 1.3 following discusses the large proportion of personal income in Gallatin County derived from non-labor sources.

---

<sup>1</sup> Montana Department of Commerce, CEIC; U.S. Bureau of the Census

<sup>2</sup> Montana Department of Commerce; U.S. Bureau of the Census

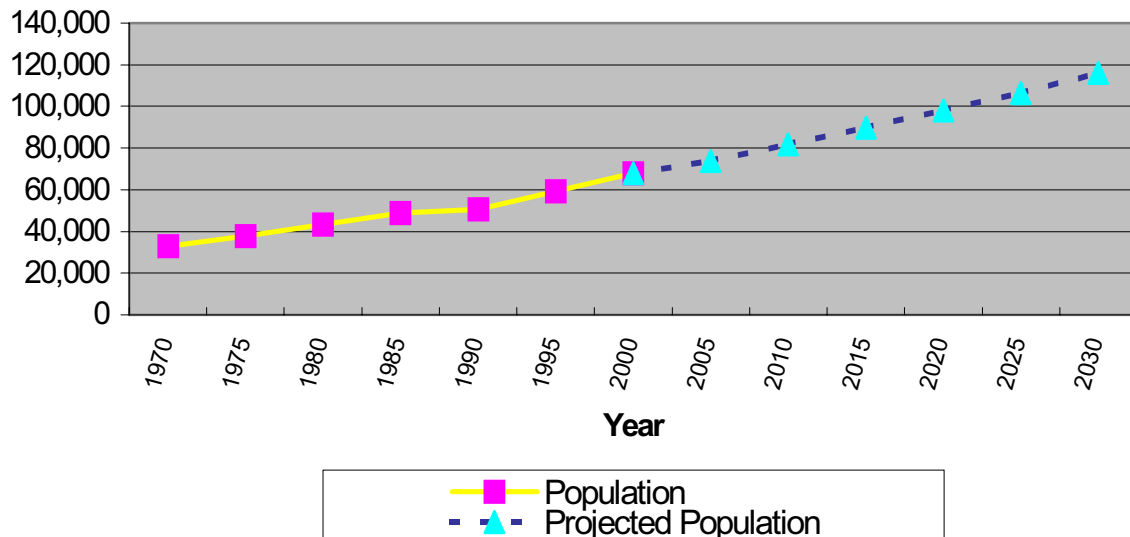
<sup>3</sup> Montana Department of Commerce, CEIC

## RESOURCE DOCUMENT 1: GALLATIN COUNTY PROFILE

### Gallatin County Growth Policy “A Shared Vision for a New Century”

---

#### GALLATIN COUNTY POPULATION



##### 1.1.1 Population Projection 2000-2030

**Current Situation:** Gallatin County’s population has grown significantly in the past ten years and is projected to maintain high levels of growth, bringing the county population to approximately 116,000 by 2030.<sup>4</sup> According to the latest census count, the Gallatin County population in 2000 stood at 67,831.<sup>5</sup>

Current population estimates divided by the total land area in Gallatin County result in a gross population density of about 24.3 persons per square mile. Based on future population projections, density in Gallatin County would increase to 44.1 persons per square mile by 2030.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Gallatin County Planning Department extrapolation of US Census and Woods & Poole data.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; Montana Department of Commerce, CEIC

<sup>6</sup> Gallatin County Planning Department

# RESOURCE DOCUMENT 1: GALLATIN COUNTY PROFILE

## Gallatin County Growth Policy “A Shared Vision for a New Century”

---

### GALLATIN COUNTY DENSITY

These maps show where the population in Gallatin County has spread from 1990 to 2000. The number of people per square mile by census tract shows a density increase in the census tract that includes Belgrade and the census tract that includes Four Corners, as well as census tracts within the City of Bozeman.

